

# AAN DE SLAG MET HET BOEK 'GEEN KAT OP SCHOOL ... OF TOCH?'

Engels



Message to all moms, dads, grandmas, grandpas, big brothers and sisters, neighbours, babysitters, teachers, supervisors and monitors, ... in short to all the readers of this book.

## USE THIS BOOK TOGETHER AT HOME AND IN THE CLASSROOM

Sit or lie down and cuddle up together You can even hang upside down in your seat or wiggle your chair a little. Take the book. Looks nice, huh ... and it smells so good! Are you curious about what's in the book?

### Discover together

Search through the book together. There is a lot to discover. The title of the book is 'Geen kat op school ... of toch?'. What does the title mean? Does the title fit the book? Is there truly no cat at school or do you see a snout or tail here and there? What does the author mean by "geen kat op school"? Have you looked at the beautiful prints yet? There is so much to see! Perhaps by looking at the pictures together you can already guess what the story will be about. Let your imagination run wild.

### Telling the story together

Browse the book together, look at the pictures and talk about them. What could be going on? Have a conversation together about what the book 'Geen kat op school ... of toch?' would be about. What does the title mean? How does the story end? What could still happen? Could this happen in real life too? ... Lots of things to think about and discuss together.

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## Listening together

Visit the website and listen to the story together. There's nothing more fun than flipping through a beautiful book together, while listening to the audio story that accompanies the book. A voice will take you through the story using the pictures. And if there is something you do not understand, you can press the pause button and ask each other for an explanation or look it up. You can listen and listen to it again whenever and as often as you like ... even until you know it completely by heart.

Scan the QR code or go to the website [www.geenkatopschool.be](http://www.geenkatopschool.be) and listen to the audio story together.

## Reading aloud together

Reading a book aloud is so much more than reading it on your own. The interaction ensures that you pass on the joy of reading. With your voice, you can make the story engaging. You can ask the listener all kinds of questions. You can fantasize together about what will happen next. You can point out details in the book and look for an explanation together. And even more fun are the conversations you can have afterwards about the story ... just out of the blue ... because it lingers.



## Read together

Seeing people read inspires others to read as well ... so reading together is a motivator. You can decide to take turns reading a sentence or even a whole page. You can also agree that someone will read the narrator's bits and someone else will play the role of the characters in the book. Just use lots of intonation and crazy voices, bringing the characters to life. While reading aloud, you can even re-enact or play out the situations. Fascinating, right!?

Quickly turn this page ... that's where the story begins.



# VERTAALFICHE BIJ HET BOEK 'GEEN KAT OP SCHOOL ... OF TOCH?'

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There is no cat at school ... (is there?)

In Belgium, if you say there's "geen kat" in Dutch, this means that nobody is there.  
The title of this book "Geen kat op school" means that there is nobody at school.



That Friday, on her way to school, Mila was cold.  
The sky on the horizon coloured orange, pink and a little gold.  
And although it was going to be another beautiful day ...  
something was very wrong at school!

Blablablie Blablabla

Chatter, jingling and loud steps at the gate.  
The parents and children had heard it from afar.

# VERTAALFICHE BIJ HET BOEK 'GEEN KAT OP SCHOOL ... OF TOCH?'

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At the gate, the principal stood with a large set of keys ...  
his lips were a little white and his cheeks showed a red blush.  
He cleared his throat ... 'Uhm' and said bashfully:  
'There is no cat in school today.  
And that's never been the case here before!

Little Mila scratched her head...  
What the principal said, she thought was a bit odd.  
She didn't quite understand!  
'No cat in school' ... 'that's quite normal, isn't it.'

Fortunately, the principal explained further:  
'There are no teachers in school today,  
hence I am closing the school gate again.'



'Miss Lotte, Mr Mo and Miss Bea are not going to get here today.  
Yes, that's what you get when the trains are on strike.'

'Miss Nour overslept this morning.  
On the phone I could still hear her quietly yawning.'

'And then you have Miss Anne ...  
She is unlucky because her car has broken down.'

'Thieves took Mr Fred's bike out of the blue.  
Who would such a thing? That's not okay right?!

'Miss Hay-Lin went to the emergency room with her young son.  
A bit of a scare ... but in the meantime everything is fine again.'

'And yes ... actually ... where is Miss Dorien?  
Because I haven't seen her today either!'

# VERTAALFICHE BIJ HET BOEK 'GEEN KAT OP SCHOOL ... OF TOCH?'

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The principal tapped his keys against the gate  
'Listen for a moment ...', he continued  
'I can understand the teachers.  
I can understand their situations pretty well ...  
'I'm sorry ... but I have to let you go back home anyway.'

'Worse,' stammered the principal ...  
'We cannot organise the school fete on Sunday!  
Where am I going to get help in the short term?

'Soooo much still has to be done.  
The tents, the groceries, the bouncy castle ...  
And there is no one to be seen here.  
I can't do that alone!  
So ... this year I'm saying 'no' to the school fete!



The parents and children looked at each other out of the corner of their eyes.  
It has never been like that here at school!  
Mila's dad cleared his throat ... 'Uhm' and said somewhat bashfully:  
'There may not be a cat in school ...  
but we can still help with the school fete!

The principal raised his eyebrows ...  
and said: 'Maybe that's true.'  
With his index finger, he nervously twirled curls in his hair.  
He stared thoughtfully ahead ... thought deeply ...  
and mumbled: 'Maybe that's a good idea.  
But who has time and would like to participate?

'Surely we can ask the other parents ...  
And the kids can help decorate and carry groceries.'  
And that's what they did!  
A lot of moms and dads were already arriving.

# VERTAALFICHE BIJ HET BOEK 'GEEN KAT OP SCHOOL ... OF TOCH?'

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That evening, the parents met up.  
They discussed and talked but ...

Blablablie Blablabla

Until the early hours.  
Even until the rooster said cock a doodle do.

And there it was on the table ..  
the plan for the fete!  
With hourly rosters and a division of tasks ...  
and a shopping list that had never been longer!



The next morning at school, it was early.  
The parents were all there ... no one complained!  
One by one, the teachers came in as well,  
After a cup of delicious coffee, they were able to get down to it together.  
Because they had a lot of work ahead of them.

Gus' dad kept an eye on the plan.  
He checked to make sure they didn't forget anything on the list.

Mila's dad swept up, together with Vic's mom  
the playground was cleaned with a brush, dustpan and broom.

Miss Bea, along with a few parents, took care of the shopping.  
As many as three cars full of goodies ... yes, you will see!

The director worked hard, with his sleeves rolled up,  
to build the stage with beams and planks.

Tess' mom provided a lot of fun  
when placing tables, chairs, booths and tents.

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Gitte's mom went to work with Mr Fred  
and decorated the booths with lights, garlands and flag.

Mr Mo and Miss Dorien had just started  
inflating as many as a hundred speckled balloons.

At the back they put the beautiful bouncy castle.  
And next to it, the games ... how many there were!

And as icing on the cake, there was Fleur's mom ...  
with a suitcase full of glitter and jars of colour!

Yes, yes ... you heard it right.  
Everything went according to plan!  
The principal suddenly thought, this will make everyone happy!



And Sunday was the day!  
Finally! The day of the fete.  
With cheerful music ...  
and a playground that had never been more beautiful.

There was a pleasant bustle.  
There was a long line at the bouncy castle.  
There were people eating, playing, laughing and talking.  
The parents got to know each other and everyone was happy.

The principal watched the festivities with eyes wide open,  
at the side of the stage ... behind the curtain.  
And he thought to himself for a moment ...  
so this is how it should always be from now on.

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He went on stage a little uncomfortably ...  
and turned on his microphone for his speech.  
He cleared his throat ... 'Uhm' and said less bashfully:  
'Thank you all, for this wonderful school fete!'

'I can draw a wise lesson,  
Not only the fetes will be a success this way!  
It has never gone so well.  
From now on, we are going to get to work together!'

'Starting today, our gate is wide open to all parents!  
Not only to help but also for a chat, I hope.'

He took out his large keychain from his pocket.  
Carefully, he took out one of the keys.

'Parents deserve a place in school ... at its heart.  
This here is the key to your new parents' room.'



Blablable Blablable

Talking, cheering, whistling and clapping ... as we never heard before!  
This was the best decision ever.

And little Mila ... she was so proud...  
Because without her father's idea, they probably wouldn't be here now!

The fete... it continued into the early hours.  
Even, yes really, until the rooster said cock a doodle do.



# VOORLEESWIJZER VOOR OUDERS IN HET ...Engels



## READING GUIDE

Cozy up together for a little chat while reading aloud.

Come and sit nice and close to me ... Are you sitting okay? Can you see everything clearly?

Take a look at this book! Shall we browse and explore the book a little? Are you also curious to find out what the story is about? **Exciting!**

What is on the cover? What is the title and who made it? What do you think this story is about? And what does it say on the back? Maybe this will give us some information already.

Are you opening the book?

What does it say on the inside of the cover at the very front? What do you see here?  
Oooh look ... is that a cat?  
So is there a cat at school after all?

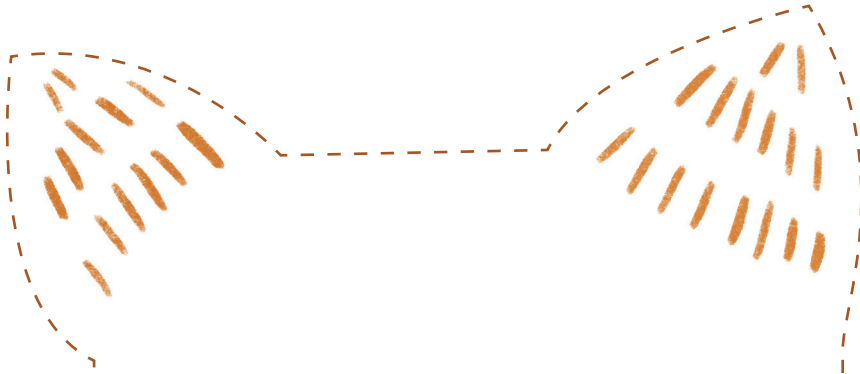
Do you already have an idea what the story would be about?

What do you think ... shall we look a little further? Where does the story start?

What happened? Has this happened to you as well? What would you do? Can you find the cat? What will happen next?  
How would you solve this?



# VOORLEESWIJZER VOOR OUDERS



Do you understand all the words?  
Can you explain what that means? What does the  
director want to say?

That is a difficult word,  
let's look up its meaning.

What does it say on the inside of the cover at the  
very back of the book? What was at the very front?  
Do you remember? What has changed?

How do you feel about the story?

What do you like and what don't you? What was  
the problem and how do they solve it? Who are  
the characters in the book? What do you want to  
do yourself and what don't you want to do?  
What would you do if ...?

Would you like to hear it again?

Shall we read together? Or would you like me to  
read it out loud? And when I stop, you can add  
your thoughts.

Shall we listen to the audio version together?  
And then you get to tell the story. Maybe you al-  
ready know the story by heart?  
You can tell the story to me now?

[www.geenkato.pschool.be](http://www.geenkato.pschool.be)

